

# State Regulation Overview

## Fertilizers and Soil Conditioners



*Michigan Department of Agriculture & Rural Development*

### **April Hunt**

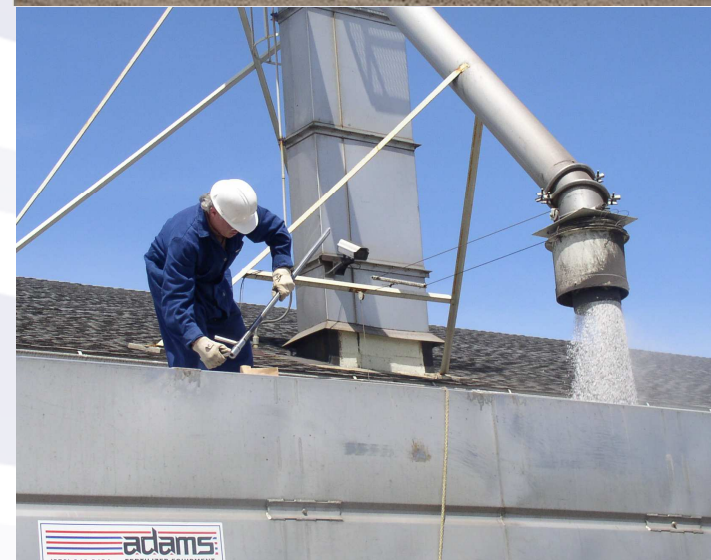
Feed and Fertilizer Specialist  
Pesticide and Plant Pest Mgmt Division



# Fertilizer Program

## Program Priorities

- Quality assurance
- Maintaining a level playing field
- Ensuring proper and secure storage to prevent bioterrorism and other misuse.
- Environmental protection





## Fertilizer by the Numbers



- Over 1.4 million tons distributed
- 630 facility licenses
- 5,100 specialty product registrations
- 400 soil conditioner product registrations
- 60 million gallons of storage
  - 30% growth by the end of 2014



## Fertilizer

- Act 451, NREPA, Part 85, Fertilizers
- “any substance containing 1 or more recognized **plant nutrients** which substance is used for its plant nutrient content and which is designed for use, or claimed to have value, in promoting **plant growth**.”
- Does NOT included manipulated animal and vegetable manures



## Soil Conditioner

- Any substance that is used or intended for use to improve the physical characteristics of soil.
- Products that are worked into the soil or are applied on the surface to improve the properties of the soil for enhancing plant growth.





## Do I need to license or register?

- If plant nutrient claims are NOT made
- If soil amending claims are NOT made
- It is sold only as “compost”

THEN

- Licensing or registration is NOT required



## Facility Licenses

- Required for all manufacturers or distributors of agricultural fertilizer in Michigan
- Agricultural/Farm Use
  - products distributed primarily for farm and ag use
  - no specialty claims are made on the label
- License covers all agricultural use products
- Calendar year
- Fee: \$100 per facility



# Registrations

- Specialty fertilizers & soil conditioners
- Specialty Use
  - “any fertilizer distributed primarily for nonfarm use”
    - home, gardens, lawns, flowers, golf courses, etc.
- Efficacy data for soil conditioners
- Calendar year
- \$125 per product
  - \$25 reg + \$100 groundwater







# Association of American Plant Food Control Officials (AAPFCO)

- Uniformity by Consensus
- Model Fertilizer Law
- Terms and Definitions
- Product Label Guide
- Lab Methods



[www.aapfco.org](http://www.aapfco.org)



# Phosphorus Restrictions



- Lawn fertilizers
- Commercial and homeowner use
- Some exemptions
  - Soil test
  - New turf establishment
  - Golf course in program
  - Low application for manure based, biosolids, natural fertilizers



# Bulk Storage Program

- Around 60 million gallons of agrichemicals
  - 30% growth by the end of 2014
- 220 commercial facilities
- Over 2,000 bulk tanks



# Questions?

[www.michigan.gov/mda-fertilizer](http://www.michigan.gov/mda-fertilizer)



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